

State House
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with Article II, Section 17 of the Maryland Constitution, I have today vetoed House Bill 859.

This bill reorganizes and revises provisions relating to disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct. Most of the specified changes are based on current law provisions. These modifications include codification of common law, expansion of existing prohibitions and definitions for the terms "public conveyance" and "public place".

Senate Bill 390, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed by me on May 12, 1998, accomplishes the same purpose. Therefore, it is not necessary for me to sign House Bill 859.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

House Bill No. 859

AN ACT concerning

Crimes - Disturbance of the Public Peace and Disorderly Conduct

FOR the purpose of repealing and revising provisions of law related to disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct; prohibiting certain obstructions or hindrances of free passage in certain places; prohibiting persons from acting in a disorderly manner to the disturbance of the public peace; prohibiting a person from willfully failing to obey certain orders of law enforcement officers under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from disturbing the public peace by unreasonably loud noise in certain places under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from acting in a disorderly manner under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain fires in Worcester County under certain circumstances; repealing provisions of law relating to interrupting or disturbing certain religious organizations in a certain manner; providing that disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct offenses may be charged by citation by a police officer under certain circumstances; providing that the Committee Notes contained in this Act are not law; defining certain terms; establishing certain penalties; and generally relating to disturbing the public peace and disorderly conduct.

BY repealing

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 121 and 122 and the subheading "Disturbance of the Public Peace"; 123 and 124 and the subheading "Disorderly Conduct"; and 470 and the subheading "Religious Meetings"

Annotated Code of Maryland